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Black-throated Gray Warblers

Will the Black-throated Gray Warbler winter at Mosswood Park a second successive winter? In the Cooper Club's directory of the Bay region the earliest record for the Black-throated Gray Warbler is April, and the latest, November. During the winter of 1929-30 one of these warblers stayed in the vicinity of Mosswood Park in Oakland, as attested by at least six observers, and this winter one has been seen twice in December. Bird students will undoubtedly wish to try to establish a second record of its wintering.

The following record of the appearance of the Black-throated Gray Warbler during the winter of 1929-30 is perhaps incomplete but should, at any rate, be sufficient. It was seen December 1 and 7, 1929, by F. M. Jencks; December 17 by P. W. Kloss; January 8, 1930, by Gordon Bolander and Harold Swanton; January 9 by Leslie Hawkins; January 12 by C. R. Thomas; February 2 and 27 by F. M. Jencks; February 5 by P. W. Kloss; April 4 by F. M. Jencks, and at the end of April by Leslie Hawkins.

On December 7 it was in company with a Dusky Warbler, and on at least three occasions after the first of the year was accompanied by Townsend Warblers. Leslie Hawkins reports that on March 27 there were two Black-throated Gray Warblers.

This winter, on December 4, one was seen in company with a Dusky Warbler by F. M. Jencks; on December 15 by P. W. Kloss, and again on January 4 and 10 by F. M. Jencks, and on January 17 by Brighton C. Cain. F. M. Jencks, Oakland, California. January 17, 1931.



Anthony Green Heron. Another summer visitant spends the winter here. On August 16, 1930, at Middle Lake of the Chain of Lakes in Golden Gate Park, an Anthony Green Heron was first observed by the writer. It was again seen on September 9 in Middle Lake and at North Lake on the following dates: September 25, October 18, November 2, 4, 11, 22, December 16, 1930, January 3, 31, and February 1, 1931. It was also observed by Brighton C. Cain on December 21, 1930, and by Chas. A. Bryant on January 1, 1931.

The water in these lakes of late has been at a lower level than it has been in years, and small fish are present in great numbers. The ease with which this Heron obtains an abundance of food here, no doubt, explains his protracted stay. Laura A. Stephens, February 1, 1931.



Data regarding early arrivals and late departures of birds and particularly records such as the foregoing reports of the Black-throated Gray Warbler and the Anthony Green Heron are interesting and instructive items for bird students. The Editor requests members to be on the alert for similar exceptional occurrences, to keep accurate records of them, and finally to send them to "The Gull" for publication.

Report of Field Trips for 1930

The following report covers the results of the monthly field trips taken by the Audubon Association of the Pacific during 1930:

Twelve regular monthly trips were made to nearby localities covering the various habitats found in the San Francisco Bay Region.

One trip to each of the following: Baumberg and Dumbarton Bridge; University of California campus and Strawberry Canyon; Mills College campus and nearby hills, all in Alameda County; Point Bonita and Tennessee Cove, Marin County; Golden Gate Park, San Francisco; Easton to San Andreas Lake, San Mateo County. Two trips to each of the following: Ross to Fairfax by way of Bon Tempe Meadow, Marin County, and Lake Merced in San Francisco. Two special trips were taken, one to the McCoy Ranch in the Livermore Valley, and one to the Farallon Islands. Combined with the Mills College campus trip was a visit to the home of Mr. J. G. Brock, an aviculturist, to observe how some of our native wild birds behave after being trapped and kept in cages.

A total of 177 native wild full species were observed on all trips, with an average of fifty-four species a trip. The November trip to Ross furnished the largest list, seventy-seven species; the Livermore trip was second with seventy-three species; the Tennessee Cove trip was third with seventy species. It is interesting to note that the December, 1929, trip to the University of California campus, taken by a group of five members in an all-day downpour of rain, produced thirty-five species, while on the December, 1930, trip to the same locality, a group of forty people with an ideal day noted thirty-six species.

Ten new species were added to the Association's "Life-list": Pink-footed Shearwater, American Egret, Wood Duck, Florida Gallinule, Semipalmated Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Short-billed Gull, Traill Fly-catcher, Cowbird, Slate-colored Junco.

The following old acquaintances were renewed: Red-breasted Merganser, not on our records since 1927; Duck Hawk, Vaux Swift and Lewis Woodpecker, not on our list since 1926; Osprey, not on our list since 1921.

Attendance of members averaged twenty a trip. Sixty-two members attended the various trips, and four members attended all the regular and special trips. The most popular trip from point of members attending was that to Tennessee Cove in August, twenty-nine members being present.

I wish to thank the members who so willingly assisted in various ways to make our trips so successful. Chas. A. Bryant, January 8, 1931.



December Field Trip was taken on Sunday the 14th, to the University of California campus and Strawberry Canyon. The day was bright with a brisk north wind.

The extensive building program which has been in progress for the past year does not seem to have reduced the number of species although the number of individuals present seemed much smaller than formerly, Pipits, Pine Siskins and Juncos were the only ones seen in fair numbers.

An Anna Hummingbird going through its courting antics of towering and diving attracted much attention; later two more were noted going through a similar performance.

Golden-crowned Kinglets still maintained their exclusiveness, making it necessary for the party to climb to the end of the ridge to find them. But Golden-crowned Kinglets were not the only reward for the climb. Here we enjoyed a marvelous view of Berkeley and San Francisco Bay, saw a lone Turkey Vulture sail past, and watched two Red-tailed Hawks engage in what appeared to be an aerial combat.

Birds observed were: Turkey Vulture; Sharp-shinned and Red-tailed Hawks; California Quail; California Gull; Anna Hummingbird; Red-shafted Flicker; Downy Woodpecker; Black Phoebe; Steller and California Jays; Plain Titmouse; Bush-tit; Wren-tit; Robin; Hermit Thrush; Golden- and Ruby-crowned Kinglets; Pipit; Hutton Vireo; Audubon and Townsend Warblers; House Sparrow; Purple Finch; Linnet; Pine Siskin; American and Green-backed

Goldfinches; Spotted and Brown Towhees; Junco; Fox, Golden-crowned, Nuttall and Song Sparrows. Thirty-six species. Forty members and guests were present. C. A. Bryant, historian. ☺ ☺ ☺

January Field Trip was taken on Sunday, the 11th, to Lake Merritt, Oakland. The weather was bright and clear with a light north wind.

A record number of members were present, thirty-six. Guests brought the number to well over fifty.

Large numbers of Ducks were present this year as well as five species of Gulls. The Herring and Short-billed Gulls and the European Widgeon attracted the most attention, the Short-billed Gull appearing for the first time on our Lake Merritt list. A European Widgeon wearing a band is believed to be the one which was banded here in 1928 and returns each season.

After leaving the feeding station, a careful search was made for the Barrow Golden-eye which has been present since October when he was discovered by Leslie Hawkins, one of our younger members. Our search was a failure at first, and it was not until late afternoon that a few persistent members succeeded in locating this rare visitor.

A census was taken with the following results:

Canvas-back Duck	2,708	Coot	505
Pintail	854	Eared Grebe	287
Baldpate	640	Pied-billed Grebe	9
Ruddy Duck	211	Western Grebe	1
Mallard	52	Black-crowned Night Heron	9
Lesser Scaup	30	Glaucous-winged Gull	21
American Golden-eye.....	21	Herring Gull	13
Shoveller	6	Bonaparte Gull	13
Buffle-head	4	Ring-billed Gull	7
Green-winged Teal.....	2	California Gull	5
Greater Scaup	2	Short-billed Gull	4
Surf Scoter	2		
European Widgeon.....	1		
Redhead	1		
Barrow Golden-eye.....	1		
Total	4,535	Total.....	874

Among the Ducks, the number of Canvas-backs is the largest ever noted, and the numbers of Pintails and Baldpates, the largest since 1925 and 1926. Other species remain about the same except a decrease in the Buffle-heads. The Barrow Golden-eye and Surf Scoters are new records in our census.

The following land-birds were noted in Lakeside Park: California Quail; Anna Hummingbird; Red-shafted Flicker; California Jay; Plain Titmouse; Bush-tit; Wren-tit; Robin; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Cedar Waxwing; Audubon Warbler; Brewer Blackbird; House Sparrow; Linnet; Green-backed Goldfinch; Golden-crowned, Nuttall and Song Sparrows. Total of forty-four species. Chas. A. Bryant, historian. ☺ ☺ ☺

In connection with the above the following information given by Mr. E. H. Ehmann regarding the banding of Ducks at Lake Merritt is of interest:

From January 23, 1926, until January 20, 1930, a total of 2,672 Ducks were banded as follows: 2,008 Pintails; 450 Baldpates; 1 European Widgeon; 11 Shovellers; 14 Mallards; 186 Coots and 2 Geese. These figures do not include rebanded birds.

Of these 297 have been reported as killed from the following places: San Leandro and Bay Region 115; Pittsburg and Suisun 32; Sacramento Valley 21; Colusa and Yolo Counties 11; San Joaquin Valley 21; Tule Lake 6; scattered in California 18; Oregon 5; Montana 7; Washington 5; one each from Oklahoma, Illinois, Idaho, Nevada, Arkansas, Mexico and North Dakota; Alaska 19; Alberta, Canada 21; Saskatchewan, Canada 6; Northwest Territory 2 and British Columbia 1.

Audubon Notes

February Meeting will be held on Thursday evening, the 12th, at 8 o'clock, Room 19, Ferry Building.

The speaker of the evening will be Mr. James Moffitt, Research Assistant to the Fish and Game Commission, who will speak on "California Wild Fowl." 🐦 🐦 🐦

February Field Trip will be taken to Easton on Sunday, the 15th. The party will meet at the stage depot, Fifth near Mission Street, San Francisco, to take bus leaving at 8:55 a. m.

East Bay members should reach Ferry Building not later than 8:20 and take car up Market to Fifth Street. Bring luncheon and filled canteens. Leave bus at Easton Drive, walk about nine miles. Return by bus or trolley. Bus fare, 25 cents each way.

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Special Notice: A meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 6:45 Thursday evening, the 12th. Kindly endeavor to be present. Chas. A. Bryant, Recording Secretary.

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January Meeting: The 13th annual meeting of the Association was held Thursday evening, January 8th, with forty-eight present. President B. C. Cain presiding.

Annual reports were read by the President, Treasurer and Outing Chairman.

The following new members were elected:

Miss Virginia Chilton, San Francisco; Messrs Lester S. Day, San Francisco, Walter Dickson Reed, Jr., and Eddie McClintock, both of Oakland; Peter Oakander, San Anselmo; Jackson Stalder, Alameda.

Officers and Directors for 1931 were elected as follows:

Brighton C. Cain.....President
Arthur H. Myer.....1st Vice Pres.
Miss Cornelia C. Pringle..2nd Vice Pres.
Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....Treasurer

C. B. Lastreto.....Corresponding Secy.
Chas. A. Bryant.....Recording Secy.
F. M. Jencks.....Director
B. C. Bremer.....Director
Mrs. H. P. Bracelin.....Director

Field observations were reported as follows:

Chas. A. Bryant, January 1, 1931, Chain of Lakes, Golden Gate Park, Anthony Green Heron; San Francisco Beach, 100 Short-billed Gulls, many Snowy Plovers and Sanderlings.

Eddie McClintock, December 31, Lake Merritt, Barrow Golden-eye.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. Dudley S. De Groot of the Menlo Jr. High School, gave a very interesting account of his trip to the Islands off the coast of Lower California, showing some interesting specimens of birds and eggs. 🐦 🐦 🐦

Book Notice: "American Waterfowl," by John C. Phillips and Frederick C. Lincoln. A study of ducks, geese and swans of North America from the point of view of conservation. The subjects treated include breeding - areas, wintering - grounds, migration, drainage and irrigation, natural enemies, oil pollution, poisons and diseases, food plants and methods of hunting, etc.

It is illustrated with drawings by Allen Brooks, and headpieces by R. L. Ripley. Published by Houghton-Mifflin Company. Price \$4.50.

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Farallon Island Trip. The Sierra Club has invited the Audubon Association to join with them in an outing to the Farallon Islands on Sunday, February 15th. Make reservations on or before February 12th with the Sierra Club, Mills Building, San Francisco. Fee of \$2.50 per person must accompany application. Bring luncheon and heavy sweaters or wraps. Trip will be made rain or shine.

Audubon Association of the Pacific For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....Brighton C. Cain.....221 Thayer Bldg., Oakland
Corresponding Secretary.....C. B. Lastreto.....260 California St., San Francisco
Treasurer.....Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 P. M., Room 19, Ferry Building.

Address Bulletin correspondence to Mrs. A. B. Stephens, Editor, 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco.

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Student memberships, \$1.50 per year.

Life memberships, \$50.00

Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer.